AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE   **Page 2**
Serial Number: 09/772,347   Dkt: 2043.038US1
Filing Date: January 29, 2001
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MAINTAINING LOGIN PREFERENCE INFORMATION OF USERS IN A NETWORK-BASED
           TRANSACTION FACILITY

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.   (Previously Presented) A method for maintaining login preference information of users of a network-based transaction facility, the method comprising:

communicating user interface information to a client via a communications network, the user interface information including information concerning a plurality of features within the network-based transaction facility and specifying a login interface facilitating user input of login preference information pertaining to each of the plurality of features, and wherein the login preference information is specific to a user to which it relates and is customized by that user;

receiving the login preference information from the client via the communications network; and

utilizing the login preference information to selectively activate a number of the plurality of features, which are identified in the login preference information for the user, within the network-based transaction facility via the communications network, and wherein activation for the number of the plurality of features is enforced with subsequent login sessions initiated by the user by utilizing the login preference information, after the user provides login information, which is separate from the login preference information and which identifies the user, in order to initiate the subsequent login sessions.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the login preference information indicates whether a user password should be remembered for each of the plurality of features.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising storing the login preference information in a database.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 further comprising:

initiating a user session upon receiving the user login information;

retrieving the login preference information from the database using the user login

information;

storing the login preference information in a session cookie during the user session;

receiving a user request to access a selected feature of the plurality of features within the

network-based transaction facility; and

utilizing the login preference information in the session cookie when determining

whether to require the user to enter user access information before providing user access to the

selected feature.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the login preference information is stored in

the session cookie in a secured manner.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 further comprising:

receiving a user request not to use a cookie during user online activity within the

network-based transaction facility; and

retrieving the login preference information from the database when determining whether

to require the user to enter the user login information before providing user access to a selected

feature of the plurality of features within the network-based transaction facility.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

presenting a user interface allowing the user to change the login preference information;

and

updating the login preference information in a database.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE   Page 4
Serial Number: 09/772,347   Dkt: 2043.038US1
Filing Date: January 29, 2001
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MAINTAINING LOGIN PREFERENCE INFORMATION OF USERS IN A NETWORK-BASED
TRANSACTION FACILITY

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving the user login information;

determining that the user has previously provided the login preference information; and

presenting a welcome user interface including user interface information indicating that

the user has previously provided the login preference information.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1 including always requiring a user password for any

feature involving display of user personal information.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the user personal information includes any

one of a group comprising credit card information and registration information.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the network-based transaction facility is a

network-based auction facility.

12.   (Previously Presented) A method to control access to a network-based transaction

facility, the method including:

identifying a user associated with a network session that logs into the network-based

transaction facility by using user login information, which is separate from user access

preferences;

identifying the access preferences associated with the user, the access preferences

indicating selective access requirements to each of a plurality of features provided by the

network-based transaction facility, wherein the access preferences identify each of the plurality

of features and are customized for the user and the user's interaction with the network-based

transaction facility; and

controlling access to each of the plurality of features in accordance with the stored access

preferences.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the controlling comprises implementing different access restrictions to respective features of the plurality of features according to the access preferences.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the controlling requires selectively requiring user identity verification information as a portion of the user login information to access a first feature of the plurality of features in accordance with the access preferences.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the user identity verification information comprises a password.

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 including communicating a request to the user to determine a set of access preferences pertaining to the plurality of features, and storing a response to the request as the access preferences.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the request comprises a user interface via which the user composes the response.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the user interface comprises a markup language document.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the plurality of features includes any one of a group comprising sell, bid, chat, feedback, account information, personalization, tracking and financial features.

20.   (Previously Presented) A system for maintaining login preference information of users of

a network-based transaction facility, the system comprising:

        a display function to communicate user interface information to a client via a

communications network, the user interface information including information concerning a

plurality of features within the network-based transaction facility and specifying a login interface

facilitating user input of login preference information selectively pertaining to a number of the

plurality of features after a user has logged into the network-based transaction facility via the

login interface with login information, which is separate from the login preference information,

and the login preference information selectively identifies the number of the plurality of features

to activate for the user;

        a receive function to receive the login preference information from the client via the

communications network; and

        an access function to utilize the login preference information for selectively controlling

user access to the number of the plurality of features identified by the login preference

information within the network-based transaction facility via the communications network, and

wherein the number of the plurality of features are customized to the user via the login

preference information.

21.   (Previously Presented) A system to control access to a network-based transaction

facility, the system including:

        a user identification function to identify a user associated with a network session that logs

into the network-based transaction facility, the user identification function utilizes user login

information, which is separate from user access preferences;

        a receive function to identify the access preferences customized for the user after the user

is identified, the access preferences identifying selective access requirements to a number of a

plurality of features provided by the network-based transaction facility; and

        an access function to control access to the number of the plurality of features in

accordance with what is identified in the access preferences for the identified user.

22.   (Previously Presented) A system for maintaining login preference information of users of a network-based transaction facility, the system comprising:

a first means for communicating user interface information to a client via a communications network, the user interface information including information concerning a plurality of features within the network-based transaction facility and specifying a login interface facilitating user input of login preference information selectively pertaining to a number of the plurality of features;

a second means for receiving the login preference information from the client via the communications network; and

a third means for utilizing the login preference information to selectively activate the number of the plurality of features within the network-based transaction facility via the communications network, wherein activation is enforced for subsequent login sessions into the network-based transaction facility by using the login preference information, after the user provides login information and after the user is identified, wherein the login information is separate from the login preference information, the login information is used to initiate the subsequent login sessions and the login preference information is used to drive the number of the plurality of features within the network-based transaction facility that are customized and made available to the user for the subsequent login sessions.

23.   (Currently Amended) A system to control access to a network-based transaction facility, the system including:

a first means for identifying a user associated with a network session that logs into the network-based transaction facility with user login information, which is separate from user access preferences;

a second means for identifying the access preferences associated with the user, the access preferences selectively indicating access requirements to a number of a plurality of features provided by the network-based transaction facility; and

a third means for selectively controlling access to the number of the plurality of features [[in]] in response to what is identified within the access preferences for the user, wherein the

number of the plurality of features are customized for the user.

24.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium that provides instructions, which

when executed on a processor, cause said processor to perform operations comprising:

communicating user interface information to a client via a communications network, the

user interface information including information concerning a plurality of features within the

network-based transaction facility and specifying a login interface facilitating user input of login

preference information selectively pertaining to a number of the plurality of features, wherein the

client provides login information to login to the network-based transaction facility, and the login

information is separate from the login preference information, the login information permits the

network-based transaction facility to identify the [[a]] user and identify the number of the

plurality of features selectively customized for that user as the login preference information;

receiving the login preference information from the client via the communications

network; and

utilizing the login preference information to selectively activate the number of the

plurality of features within the network-based transaction facility via the communications

network in response to the login preference information.

25.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium that provides instructions, which

when executed on a processor, cause said processor to perform operations comprising:

identifying a user associated with a network session that logs into the network-based

transaction facility with user login information that is separate from user access preferences;

identifying the access preferences associated with the user in response to identifying the

user with the user login information, the access preferences selectively indicating access

requirements to a number of a plurality of features provided by the network-based transaction

facility; and

controlling access to the number of the plurality of features in response to what is

included within the access preferences, wherein the number of the plurality of features are

customized for the user.